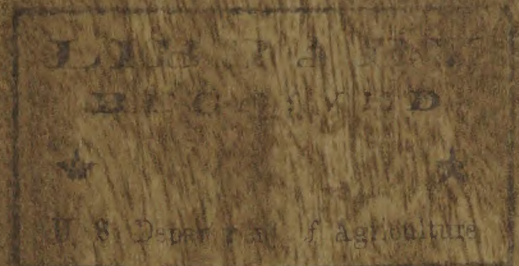


Historic, archived document

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.

62.61

=1940?



GRAFTED NUT TREES



BENTON AND SMITH NUT TREE NURSERY

WASSAIC, NEW YORK

Our Motto—"Beauty Plus Utility"

Nut trees are as easy to grow as other ornamental or shade trees. Nut trees make as good shade trees as those now commonly grown such as Maple, Elm, etc., and some of them make real ornamentals, as for instance, Japanese heartnut, hickories, hickory hybrids, etc.

In addition superior varieties of the various nut trees will also produce crops of delicious and very nutritious food of considerable economic value. Most of us remember the pleasure we had as children gathering nuts in the fall and of cracking and eating them by the fireside in winter. In large part these delicious nuts are as a gift, at practically no expense or labor. Our grafted nut trees if planted about your farm, suburban or town home offer you all of the above as we propagate only superior varieties, that will mature their crop here in the North.

We do not at present advocate the commercial planting of nut trees in the North Eastern States but there is no doubt as to their value planted about the homestead. The expense is small compared to extra values they offer.

Also many of the nut tree species produce very valuable lumber if for any reason such trees have to be removed in the future.

THE HEARTNUT

This tree presents a wonderful combination, being one of the very best ornamentals and producing one of the best of nuts.

THE HEARTNUT (*Juglans cordifernius*)

A varietal form of the Japanese walnut. The trees are rapid growing, very ornamental, wide spreading—excellent as a lawn tree—while the shade is dense, grass grows well under it.

The nut of the better varieties, such as we offer, is easy to crack, the kernels being easily extracted (a high percentage in whole halves). In flavor it is unlike any of the nuts which at present can be purchased in the market. It is very similar in flavor and shape of kernel to the butter-nut.

The trees bear young, first nuts usually appearing the third or fourth season from grafting. Thus the tree you set out will usually bear a few nuts the second or third season after planting.

ENGLISH WALNUT or more properly PERSIAN WALNUT

(*Juglans regia*)

The English Walnut as previously grown in the Eastern U. S. has been imported from England, France, Germany, etc., and have not proven hardy where winter temperature falls to more than —10° F. This has held its range to Southern Penn., Southern N. J. and farther South.

THE CRATH CARPATHIAN ENGLISH WALNUTS

This class of English walnuts are named after the Rev. Paul C. Crath, who was born in the Russian Ukraine. He is a graduate of two European Universities and one in North America. For seven years (1925-1933) he was a missionary in the Carpathian Mountains of Poland. He became much interested in walnuts growing in these mountains. In 1929 there was a very severe winter all over Europe, in the Carpathian mountains of Poland the temperatures remaining 45 degrees below zero for over two months. The peasants took their cows, pigs, etc., into their huts to keep them from freezing to death. Nearly all plum trees and many apple and pear trees were killed, but the walnut trees suffered very little, withstanding the severe cold better than any other of the fruit trees.

In 1934 money was raised by interested nut tree growers in U. S. and Canada to send the Rev. Crath to Poland to select English walnuts for introduction into the northern states and Canada. He selected only high quality nuts from trees that showed no injury at all from the 1929 winter. The importation of these nuts continued for several years but now of course the war has put a stop to it, and there may never be any further opportunity to do so, as that portion of Poland has been taken over by Russia and very possibly the walnut trees have been cut down for gun stocks, etc.

The Carpathian English Walnut and the Circassian walnut are synonymous. The Circassian walnut is valued in the furniture industry higher than Mahogany.

The Carpathian English Walnut makes large fairly fast growing trees. Trees 30 to 100 years old being 60 to 75 feet high and a foot to three feet in diameter of trunk. In the majority of cases the quality of the Carpathian English Walnut is superior to that of the California English Walnuts.

In 1936 we purchased two pounds of the nuts imported from Poland that winter and from these have about 60 seedlings growing and have started grafting these seedlings onto black walnut stock. They make rapid growth. We are not trying to sell any of these grafts until after they begin to bear so that we can judge of their merits. However, if any one wishes to experiment we can spare a few of these trees at \$3.00 each. However, we have some fine

grafts of two varieties which are from trees from scion wood sent by the Rev. Crath to Prof. Neilson in the winter of 1930.

BROADVIEW ENGLISH WALNUT

This variety originated from a nut brought over from Russia and planted in British Columbia. The original tree has withstood temperatures of—25° F. and a grafted tree of this variety, grown by Mr. Carl Walker of Cleveland Heights, Ohio, where the minimum temperature during the winter of 1933-34 was—26° F., showed only slight injury which did not seriously damage the tree. This nut is of good size, thin shell and as good or better than the best of the California English Walnut.

THE HICKORY

Probably no nut holds as high a place in the affections of those who have gathered wild nuts and cracked them by the fireside as the Shagbark hickory except possibly the American Chestnut which is now practically extinct.

THE SHAGBARK HICKORY (*Carya ovata*)

A good ornamental, while its leaves do not color as well as some of the other hickories yet its stately upright growth, with its shaggy bark is an indispensable part of our landscape.

THE HICKORY HYBRIDS

While they should not supercede the Shagbark as an ornamental they do supplement it, while in stately upright growth they strongly resemble the Shagbark. They are more rapid in growth and the foliage colors somewhat better in the Fall. But they lack that shaggy bark which is so well associated with the hickory.

While we have more than 90 different named varieties of hickories and hickory hybrids growing in one test orchard we are at present propagating for sale only a few of the very best varieties which we are sure will mature their crop in this climate and the nuts crack well, many of the kernels coming out in whole halves.

THE BLACKWALNUT (*Juglans nigra*)

While the black walnut is probably of least value of any of the nut trees as an ornamental it does make a good roadside tree and the superior varieties which we have to offer furnish large crops of valuable nuts. These superior varieties crack well, a large percentage of the kernels coming out in whole quarters. As with the hickories, while we have a good many named varieties of black walnuts growing in our test plantings, we offer for sale in the northeast only those varieties which we are sure will mature their crop in this climate. We inclose with this booklet a list of trees which we have for sale this year. The black walnut tree produces very valuable lumber.

SPECIAL

In addition we are offering a new service which we call our custom service. At the present stage of nut growing there are so many named varieties many of which so little is known as to their relative merits, that it would bankrupt any nursery to try to propagate and carry all the named varieties. Yet there are many who desire to secure a tree or a few trees of some particular variety. Sometimes this may be a nut suited to a particular region or it may be an old favorite which someone wishes to perpetuate. If you want a tree or trees of some variety of hickory, blackwalnut, English walnut or Japanese walnut (Heartnut) we will endeavor to propagate it for you under the following conditions:

You will have to order previous to April 1st, or better March 1st of the season in which we are to grow the tree.

A deposit of \$5.00 must accompany the order. This deposit will pay for the first tree, if more than one tree is desired and we are able to produce more than one tree, the price of such additional trees will be at standard prices which will be \$2.00 to \$3.00 depending on kind and size of trees.

If the variety desired be an unnamed variety or one which we cannot secure grafting wood of, you will have to send grafting wood. This should be one or two-year-old wood of good growth (vigorous tips of branches). This wood should be cut while still perfectly dormant and immediately wrapped in damp cloth or paper and then in waxed paper, then properly enclosed for mailing to us.

We can secure wood of most named varieties but if we cannot secure wood or fail to successfully propagate a tree we will refund deposit in full. We cannot guarantee to produce a certain kind of tree at a certain time because nut tree grafting at best is rather difficult and uncertain.

Bentley and Smith
Wassale, N.Y.

DESCRIPTION AND PRICE LIST

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY
WASHINGTON, D.C.

Our policy is to carry as standard varieties, only those which we have grown here and which have fruited, proving that they are adapted to this locality, or those varieties which from their origin or having fruited in such locations as to make us very sure that they will mature their fruits here and that the trees will prove hardy here.

We also plan to keep abreast of the development of northern nut growing and from time to time will add to our list such of the very best varieties as prove adaptable in this latitude. We will occasionally have extra trees of varieties which we will advocate only for more southern locations or for those who are collecting various varieties. We will fill orders in the order which they are received and as our stock of most varieties is very limited please order early and avoid being disappointed this year.

-----0-----

Heartnuts

The Fodermaier - The nut of this variety is of good size, cracks easily, the kernels, in large part, coming out in whole halves; in flavor it is one of the very best.

The tree grows rapidly, bears annually and in the winter of 1933-34 the parent tree withstood temperatures of -30° to -35° F. without any apparent injury. A graft of this variety is growing and fruiting in Hanover, New Hampshire.

The Wright - while we have never seen any nuts of this variety it is described by Mr. C. A. Reed of the U. S. Department of Agriculture as being one of the best (Northern nut growers association, 1936 annual report, page 25)

The tree gives indication of being even more hardy than the Fodermaier. Very rapid grower while young and we suppose will continue so as it grows older.

Prices of all heartnut trees:

over 5 feet.....	\$ 5.00
4 to 5 feet.....	4.50
under 4 feet.....	4.00

Measured from point of grafting.

We make a reduction from above prices locally where we are allowed to secure grafting wood in future.

English Walnuts

Broadview - The nuts of this variety which we have seen are as large as the largest English walnuts found on the markets. They mature in Michigan at 42° North latitude. In quality equal to best of California English walnuts.

Carpathian English Walnuts

Crath No. 5 - This variety is about the size of the average English walnut as found in the market. The shell is somewhat thicker but not seriously so. The quality is very fine.

Crath No. 2 - We have seen no nuts of this variety but feel sure it will prove fine as Rev. Crath would not have bothered to send wood of an inferior variety to Prof. Neilson.

We have several fine trees priced at \$5.00 per tree. Except locally where we can secure grafting wood from them in future in which case price to \$2.50 per tree.

Hickory

The Davis - a true shagbark, 1st prize winner in the New York and New England contest of 1934. (Best of 442 entries) Nut of medium size, cracking quality of the very best, flavor true shagbark, sweet and rich. A vigorous grower. This is one of the very few shagbarks which can successfully be grafted onto pig-nut stocks. The Original tree grows in Dutchess County, N. Y. Matures nuts as far north as latitude 42° and likely somewhat farther north.

The Fox - Another true shagbark. 1st prize winner in the Northern Nut Growers Association contest of 1934. Nut somewhat larger than Davis, cracking quality excellent, flavor the very best true shagbark quality. A vigorous grower, growing well on bitternut and shagbark stocks and in the only case we have tried is doing well in mocker nut stock. Original tree grows near Fonda, N. Y. and thus will succeed as far north as the Mohawk Valley in N. Y.

The Davis and Fox are two very fine shagbarks and should be included in all hickory plantings.

The Murdock - A true shagbark of far northern origin. Cracking quality good, flavor the very best, size of nut above medium. Original tree grows on banks of Lake Champlain a few miles north of the village of Crown Point, N. Y. This northern origin indicates that it will succeed to the northern limits of the hickory.

The Goheen - 2nd prize winner in the northern nut Growers Association contest 1934. A true shagbark, Original tree growing at Pennsylvania Furnace, Pennsylvania. We cannot advocate this variety north of Pennsylvania until it has fruited here. Also a few trees of the following varieties:

Anthony #1 (We can give no recommendations regarding these vari-
Glover eties until they have fruited here. They are all rated
Kentucky very highly.)

Stratford

Prices of all hickory varieties is \$3.00 per tree. These trees are small, but the hickory should be set while small and the expense of growing hickory stocks prohibits growing and grafting them cheaper.

Blackwalnuts

The Snyder - This variety won 1st prize in the New York and New England contest of 1934. The nut is large, thin shelled, cracks out well. One of the very best varieties. It matures its nuts and fills well here 42° North Latitude.

The Benton - This variety won 2nd prize in the New York and New England contest of 1934. The original tree grows on Mr. Benton's home farm here. While the nut is considerably smaller than the Snyder it cracks well and is of very good quality and will surely succeed in this latitude.

The Stambaugh - This variety won 1st prize in the Northern Nut Grower's Contest of 1926. The nut is one of the very best being large, thin shelled and of excellent cracking quality. However, we cannot recommend it as far north as this without reservation as it fruited for us for the first time this year and was not as well filled and matured as desirable. But we had a short cool season this year and are very hopeful that it will develop satisfactorily in a normal season.

The Thomas - This variety is the oldest and most nearly standard variety of blackwalnut. But it has failed to fill properly with us in three seasons of fruiting so we do not advocate it so far north.

We also have a few trees of the following varieties, about which we know very little; they are extras from our grafting this year for our test planting: Webber, Stabler, Wiard, Bowman, Allen, Pine Crest, Tasterite, Wanda, Booth, Todd, Sparrow, and Troup.

Prices all black walnut trees:

over 5 feet.....	\$ 3.00
4 to 5 feet.....	2.50
3 to 4 feet.....	2.25
under 3 feet.....	2.00

All measurements taken from point of grafting

Terms - cash with order except by special arrangement
All prices - F. O. B. Wassaic, N. Y.

